

THE CAPTAIN OF the KANSAS

By LOUIS TRACY.

Author of "The Wings of the Morning," "The Pillar of Light," Etc.

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CHAPTER XIII—CONTINUED (From Last Saturday)

Then came the sudden revelation over the unsteady Chilean's body the deafening vibration of the fog horn ceased and he heard Elsie's glad cry from the cabin:

"Oh, my, here comes Joey! That means that Captain Courtney has left the bridge."

The girl's joyous exclamation, her prelude to a paean of thanks that the dreadful necessary slaying of men had ceased, was a strange commentary on the shattered form stretched at the commander's feet. Among the small company on board it had been decreed that one at least, after surviving so many perils, should never see home and kin again.

He gave orders that the dead man should be carried to the poop to await a sailor's burial. Then he turned and, with less brightly staid, descended the main companion. In the salon he found Elsie and Christobal watching the stairs expectantly. The girl had the dog in her arms, and Courtney perceived for the first time that Joey's off fore paw had been cut by the broken glass which littered the floor of the chart house.

"Then the attack has really failed?" was Elsie's greeting. "I saw some of the canoes turn and scurry away. That was the first good sign, and then Joey came."

"You saw them?" repeated Courtney, his bent brows emphasizing the question.

"Yes. I was looking through one of the ports. Was that wrong?"

"Which one?"

"She pointed. 'That one,' said she, wondering that he had never a smile for her."

"Then you must obey orders more faithfully next time. A man was shot dead by a stray bullet not three feet above your head."

She paled, and her eyes fell before his stern gaze, which did not deceive her at all, for she read the unspoken agony of his thought.

"I am sorry," she murmured, "not so much on my own account, though I



"If you undertake to hold the dog, Miss Maxwell, I will bind his paw."

shall be more careful in future, but because some one has suffered. Who is it—not one of our own people, I hope?"

"A fireman. I think his name is Gama. You have hardly seen him, I fancy, but I regret his loss exceedingly. It must have been the merest accident."

The captain of the Kansas was certainly preoccupied or he would never have failed to inquire the extent of Joey's injury. Nor would either he or Elsie have forgotten that Christobal was not "one of our own people," though the girl might protest hotly against any invidious twisting of the phrase.

The Spaniard missed nothing of Courtney's solicitude for Elsie's well being nor of her shy confusion. Christobal was under no sort of doubt that unless another "accident" intervened he had lost all chance of winning this woman's love.

But he swallowed the bitter knowledge and said:

"If you undertake to hold the dog, Miss Maxwell, I will bind his paw."

"Oh, my ducky darling little pet! Did I actually forget all about his dear wounded little foot? And he came hopping in so bravely, too, carrying himself with such a grand air. Come, then, Joey, dear! Let us see what has happened. Yes, this is the doctor, but he won't hurt you. He is so good and kind to little dogs. He will wrap up the bloody part until it is quite nice and comfy."

CHAPTER XIV.

ON his way back to the deck the captain encountered Suarez. The Spaniard led the Englishman toward one of the peep holes in the canvas screen. Sure

enough, the canoes were making off toward Otter creek. In the marvellously clear light it was easy to see the threatening arms held out toward the ship by a few men who stood upright. Even their raucous cries were yet audible. Courtney was glad he had not missed this demonstration of hatred. It argued the necessity of continued watchfulness.

The general attitude of the crew was one of real annoyance that the fight had not been carried on at close quarters. The Kansas bore tokens in plenty of the battle. Many bullets and arrows had struck the ship, the canvas was torn in several places, a number of port lights were broken, and the open decks, fore and aft as well as the spar deck, were littered with stones. He picked up some of these missiles, man's earliest and latest projectile. They were round and heavy. A few bore the red streaks of oxidized iron; some appeared to be veritable lumps of ore, though the action of water had made them "smooth stone out of the brook." He showed one to Tolle-mache, who seemed to possess a good deal of out of the way knowledge, and the latter instantly pronounced the specimen to be almost pure copper valued with silver.

The captain saw to the reverent burial of poor Pietro Gama, entered full details of the fight in the ship's log and helped Walker to search the suspected coal for a further supply of dynamite, as the utility of the surface mines had been demonstrated beyond a doubt. He thought it possible, given the necessary time, to rig a device which would be practically invisible. A fresh set of dummy poles, which the Indians would probably avoid in the event of a second attack, might deflect the canoes into the area of new mines laid at sea level.

Their utmost diligence brought to light no further supply of the explosive. Evidently the prepared lumps of coal, each containing a stick of dynamite, which were placed in the bunker at Valparaiso had been conveyed on board by one man, so it was more than likely there was not another ounce of the stuff on the ship except the three specimens first discovered.

These water soaked and useless, were locked in a drawer in the chart house.

While scrutinizing the bunker Courtney found a grubby piece of paper, crushed into a ball and amalgamated with coal dust by means of the glue or other substance which had been used for making the bombs intended for the destruction of the furnaces. He examined it carefully, believing it had the appearance and texture of cartridge paper. He placed it in his pocket and, while changing his clothes before joining the others at supper, came on it again with a certain surprise. He plunged it into a basin of hot water, and it yielded its secret. It was the outer wrapper of a stick of dynamite. It bore the circular stamp of the manufacturers, the Sociedad Anonima de las Costas del Pacifico. This in itself meant nothing. The same company probably supplied hundreds of mines with the five pound boxes in which dynamite is packed, and if the stamp were the only clue none could possibly say when or where it had been issued for use.

But miners are apt to be careless. Men accustomed to dynamite will handle it with an astounding disregard for danger, and here was a case in point. Some Spanish overseer, evidently at a loss for a memorandum tablet, had scribbled hieroglyphics with an indelible pencil on this particular wrapper. It was clear that the figures and abbreviated words referred to the development of a cross heading and the position of certain lodes, but Courtney was quick to see that the official, who made those notes would recognize them; hence the mine or store from which the package had been stolen or bought could be identified. Such evidence was of highly circumstantial value. Courtney put the wrapper in the same drawer as the cartridges, entered in the log the time and manner of its discovery and forthwith dismissed it from his mind.

It was almost dark when he went on deck. The wind was keen and chilly, it whistled through the broken windows of the wheelhouse and seemed to have in it a promise of bad weather. But a glance aloft and at the sky beyond the southern headland—Point Kansas, as it was called on board—reassured him. The far flung are over-head was cloudless. The stars of the southern hemisphere, vivid and bright, though less familiar than those of the north, were reflected in the black water. The ship was so still, the surroundings so peaceful, save for the plash of tiny waves created by the breeze, that he was almost startled when a soft voice came from the lower deck:

"Where in the world have you been, Captain Courtney? Joey is fretting for you, and I have called him all over the ship in vain search."

His heart jumped with gladness. Elsie was awaiting him at the foot of the companion. Be sure he was by her side without needless delay. The dog wriggled in her arms, so she said: "I don't think he ought to run about. His dear little paw is rather badly cut, and there may be more broken glass on the deck."

"I hope not, for our Chileans' sake," laughed Courtney. "I heard Mr. Boyle telling them to sweep it up, and they were hard at work when I went to my cabin."

"Oh, is that where you hid yourself? No wonder I could not find you. Of course Joey knew where you were. How stupid of me!"

"Please don't call yourself names, Elsie. You don't deserve them. And, by the way, may I address you by your Christian name? It slipped out today unawares. Not that I feel like apologizing, because I don't. There are times when the heart speaks, not the guarded tongue."

Luckily the darkness covered the hot blush which leaped to her cheeks. She gave a nervous little laugh and strove desperately to parry this wholly unexpected assault.

"I shall be delighted if you always call me Elsie. It sounds friendly, and I think our circumstances warrant a true friendship."

"Excellent! I suppose you know that my name is Arthur?"

"Yes, but I had no notion of that sort of exchange. You are the captain, and a very serious sort of captain at times. I feel like a little girl when you look at me and tell me not to be naughty, so 'Elsie' sounds all right, but I simply dare not call you 'Arthur.' Just imagine what a sensation it would create in the salon! I should feel creepy all over. And hadn't we better be?"

"Elsie," said he, with a tender note in his voice which thrilled her like a chord of exquisite music. "I want to tell you something. The knowledge is forced on me that there is another man on this ship who wishes to make you his wife, but I, too, love you, and I see no reason why I should stand aside for any man on God's earth until you tell me with your own lips that you prefer him to me."

"Oh!" gasped Elsie and "Oh!" again, but not another word could she utter, she who had been so voluble a moment ago. The bitter-sweet pain of hearing this sudden avowal was almost overpowering. Her ideals of honor and truth were shocked, but she was a woman as well as an idealist, and she was stirred to the depths of her soul by the knowledge that she had won the man whose love she craved.

"I want you to listen to me, Elsie," he said, with a passionate intensity, that stilled the rising storm in her bosom. "Dr. Christobal may have pleaded his own cause already. It is not for me to cavil at him for doing that, but I cannot love you without a word. Whether you marry him or me or neither of us, I shall love you forever. I want you to know that. It is no new discovery to me. I think my heart went out to you when I carried you in my arms through the gale, and since that hour you and I have had experiences denied to most men and women ere they reach the conclusion that they are fit mates for the voyage of life. Do you feel that, sweetheart? I have known each other ten days or ten years?"

His face was very near to hers now. His arm was around her neck. It was quite dark where they stood in the shadow of the bridge. He could not see the tears in her eyes, but he heard her broken answer:

"Are you quite fair—in using such words to me?"

"Fair, Elsie! Fair to whom?"

"Because—oh, how can I tell you! Are you free to—to speak to me in this way?"

"Elsie, I am pledged to no other woman, if that is what you mean. Who has been telling you otherwise?"

"No one. Indeed—indeed, I alone am to blame. You will be angry with me, but I could not help it."

She could say no more. If she had uttered another syllable just then she would have broken down completely. Courtney placed his hand under her chin and lifted her unresisting lips to his. He kissed her twice and laughed softly, with a glad confidence that sent a wave of delight coursing through Elsie's veins.

"Sweetheart," he whispered, "I am sure you would not have allowed me to speak so plainly if you were going to send me away. Now, I don't want you to bind yourself irrevocably tonight. That would certainly not be fair. I don't know why I am to be angry of what it was you couldn't help, and I don't care a red cent. All I want to know is this—if the Kansas brings us both back to the outer world once more, have I as good a chance of winning your love as any other man?"

"But I must tell you. I could not look you in the face if you did not hear it. When I was left alone in your cabin the second time and the sea came in, a packet of letters fell out of some clothes which I picked up from the floor. There was one from your sister. I hardly knew what I was doing, but I saw her name, 'Madge,' and I read a few words on the half page above her signature."

His left arm was now so well established that his hand touched her cheek, and he found it wet with tears.

"What wild conceit has crept into your pretty little head?" he cried in amazement, unconsciously raising his voice somewhat. "A letter from my sister! She is the most straightforward woman breathing. I assure you. Never a line has she written to me which could bear any construction such as seems to trouble you. Why, on the contrary, Madge has often chafed me for being so like herself in giving no thought to matrimony."

(Continued Next Saturday)

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BY AUTHORITY

Notice is hereby given that the land described in the following Schedules will be open for applications, under Part 5, Land Act 1895, (Sections 286 to 312 inclusive, Revised Laws of Hawaii), for Homestead Leases, at and after nine o'clock A. M., Wednesday, January 27, 1909, at the office of the Sub-Agent, Sixth Land District, (which said office will be established for that day), at the Court House, Kapas, Kauai.

SCHEDULE "A"

KAPAA FLAT KULA LOTS			
Lot No.	Area.	Lot No.	Area.
8. 7500 Sq. Ft.	13. 7500 Sq. Ft.	10. 7500 Sq. Ft.	15. 7500 Sq. Ft.
9. 7500 Sq. Ft.	14. 7500 Sq. Ft.	11. 7500 Sq. Ft.	16. 7500 Sq. Ft.
10. 7500 Sq. Ft.	15. 7500 Sq. Ft.	12. 7500 Sq. Ft.	17. 7500 Sq. Ft.
11. 7500 Sq. Ft.	16. 7500 Sq. Ft.	13. 7500 Sq. Ft.	18. 7500 Sq. Ft.
12. 7500 Sq. Ft.	17. 7500 Sq. Ft.	14. 7500 Sq. Ft.	19. 7500 Sq. Ft.

SCHEDULE "B"

MAUKA KAPAA KULA LOTS			
Lot No.	Area.	Lot No.	Area.
7. 1.6 Acres	17. 2.2 Acres	27. 0.9 Acres	
8. 1.3 Acres	18. 2.2 Acres	28. 1.9 Acres	
9. 2.8 Acres	19. 3.1 Acres	29. 1.8 Acres	
10. 1.0 Acres	20. 2.6 Acres	30. 1.4 Acres	
11. 1.7 Acres	21. 3.0 Acres	31. 1.9 Acres	
12. 0.8 Acres	22. 1.2 Acres	32. 1.4 Acres	
13. 1.0 Acres	23. 1.4 Acres	33. 1.9 Acres	
14. 1.2 Acres	24. 1.1 Acres	34. 0.7 Acres	
15. 1.9 Acres	25. 4.1 Acres	35. 1.5 Acres	
16. 3.2 Acres	26. 4.3 Acres	36. 1.0 Acres	

SCHEDULE "C"

MAUKA TARO LANDS			
Lot No.	Area.	Lot No.	Area.
7. 0.8 Acres	19. 0.9 Acres	35. 1.0 Acres	
8. 1.0 Acres	20. 0.7 Acres	36. 0.9 Acres	
9. 1.0 Acres	21. 0.9 Acres	37. 0.8 Acres	
10. 0.8 Acres	22. 1.0 Acres	38. 1.0 Acres	
11. 0.9 Acres	23. 1.0 Acres	39. 0.9 Acres	
12. 1.0 Acres	24. 1.0 Acres	40. 0.7 Acres	
13. 0.9 Acres	25. 1.0 Acres	41. 0.6 Acres	
14. 0.8 Acres	26. 1.0 Acres	42. 0.8 Acres	
15. 0.9 Acres	27. 1.0 Acres	43. 0.8 Acres	
16. 0.6 Acres	28. 1.0 Acres	44. 0.8 Acres	
17. 0.9 Acres	29. 1.0 Acres	45. 0.8 Acres	
18. 0.9 Acres	30. 0.9 Acres	46. 0.8 Acres	
	31. 0.9 Acres	47. 0.8 Acres	

All applications for said lots are to be made in person by the applicant, at the office of the Sub-Agent of the Sixth Land District.

Maps and further information may be obtained upon application to E. G. K. Deverill, Sub-Agent, Sixth Land District, or at the office of the undersigned, Judiciary Building, Honolulu.

At the same time and place, there will be sold at public auction, under the Provisions of Part 5, Land Act 1895, (Sections 278 to 285 inclusive, Revised Laws of Hawaii), General Leases of the following described lands.

MAUKA TARO AND KULA LOTS

Lot No.	Area.	Upset Annual Rental.	Lot No.	Area.	Upset Annual Rental.
1. 1.5 Kula			32. 4.0 Kula		
1-A. 1.8 Wet	\$18.00		31-A. 1.0 Wet	\$31.00	
2. 4.6 Kula			33. 3.5 Kula		
2-A. 1.0 Wet	\$3.40		34. 1.1 Wet	\$0.50	
3. 3.4 Kula			35. 6.4 Kula		
3-A. 1.8 Wet	\$2.60		36. 3.0 Wet	\$2.10	
4. 2.5 Kula			37. 4.3 Kula	\$6.30	
4-A. 1.0 Wet	\$2.00		38. 4.3 Kula	\$7.20	
5. 2.1 Kula			39. 5.0 Kula	\$8.00	
5-A. 1.0 Wet	\$2.40		40. 5.0 Kula	\$8.00	
6. 1.9 Kula			41. 1.5 Kula		
6-A. 1.0 Wet	\$2.60		42-A. 33-A. 34-A. 35-A. 3.7 Wet	\$1.50	
31. 2.5 Kula					
30-A. 1.9 Wet	\$2.50				

KAPAA FLAT AGRICULTURAL LAND

Lot No.	Area.	Upset Annual Rental.
4. 1.75 Acres Agricultural land		\$30.00 per annum
5. 2.0 Acres Agricultural land		\$30.00 per annum
6. 2.5 Acres Swamp land		\$5.00 per annum
7. 1.2 Acres Agricultural land		\$5.00 per annum
8. 4.0 Acres Waste land		\$20.00 per annum
9. 5.8 Acres Agricultural land		\$30.00 per annum
10. 2.80 Acres Swamp land		\$30.00 per annum
11. 1.11 Acres Agricultural land		\$25.00 per annum
12. 1.71 Acres Swamp land		\$25.00 per annum

Rental payable semi-annually in advance.

Term of lease, five (5) years from date of sale.

The following lots will also be sold under General Leases.

IMPROVED AND UNIMPROVED LOTS ON KAPAA FLAT.

Block.	Lot No.	Area.	Upset Annual Rental.
"A"	2.	18440 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	\$5.00
	3.	17375 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	25.00
	4.	21500 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	35.00
	5.	24000 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	15.00
"B"	6.	11250 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	15.00
	7.	14400 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	15.00
	11.	13235 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	15.00
	12.	11990 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	15.00
	13.	12790 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	15.00
"C"	1.	28400 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	30.00
	3.	6318 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	15.00
	4.	8280 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	50.00
"D"	2.	11290 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	30.00
	3.	8490 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	75.00
	5.	9670 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	90.00
"E"	1.	7000 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	15.00
	2.	8600 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	25.00
	3.	6750 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	15.00
"F"	1.	40500 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	15.00
	1, 2.	23760 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	25.00
	3, 4.	18000 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	20.00
	5, 6, 7.	22800 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	25.00
	8, 9, 10.	22500 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	25.00
	11, 12, 13.	22500 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	25.00
	14, 15, 16.	22500 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	25.00
	17, 18, 19.	25400 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	25.00
"G"	1, 2.	19700 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	25.00
	3, 4, 5.	22500 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	25.00
	6, 7.	16000 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	15.00
	18, 19, 20.	22500 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	25.00
	21, 22, 23.	22500 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	25.00
	24, 25, 26.	22000 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	25.00
"H"	1, 2.	21200 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	25.00
	3, 4, 5.	22500 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	25.00
	6, 7.	15000 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	15.00
	8, 9.	15000 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	15.00

Rental payable semi-annually in advance.

Term of Lease, ten (10) years from date of sale.

Sub-Renting, sub-letting or assignment of any interest or right to occupy or use premises to be prohibited unless written permission is first obtained from the Commissioner.

Improvements to be maintained.

Lessee to pay all taxes assessed.

Reservations regarding land required by the Government for settlement or public purposes will be embodied in each of the above leases.

For maps and further information, apply to the Sub-Agent, Sixth Land District, or at the office of the undersigned, Judiciary Building, Honolulu.

At the same time and place, there will be sold at public auction, under Provisions of Part 4, Land Act 1895, (Section 276, Revised Laws of Hawaii), the following described lots:

Block.	Lot No.	Area.	Upset Price.
"A"	1.	1.9 Acres	\$450.00 Including Improvements

6.	23750 Sq. Ft.	70.00 Including Improvements
8.	17300 Sq. Ft.	55.00 Including Improvements
2.	20250 Sq. Ft.	125.00 Including Improvements
3.	12375 Sq. Ft.	50.00 Including Improvements
4.	11250 Sq. Ft.	15.00 No Improvements
6.	15075 Sq. Ft.	100.00 Including Improvements
9.	14625 Sq. Ft.	120.00 Including Improvements
10.	11475 Sq. Ft.	95.00 Including Improvements
14.	24975 Sq. Ft.	160.00 Including Improvements
15.	20375 Sq. Ft.	70.00 Including Improvements
16.	44000 Sq. Ft.	245.00 Including Improvements
1.	6916 Sq. Ft.	15.00 No Improvements
2.	6895 Sq. Ft.	15.00 No Improvements
3.	7350 Sq. Ft.	15.00 No Improvements
4.	7387 Sq. Ft.	15.00 No Improvements
5.	7881 Sq. Ft.	15.00 No Improvements
6.	7500 Sq. Ft.	15.00 No Improvements
7.	7500 Sq. Ft.	15.00 No Improvements
8.	7500 Sq. Ft.	15.00 No Improvements
9.	7500 Sq. Ft.	15.00 No Impro